



Patent

Attorney Docket No. 011350-289

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Noboru Saito et al.

Application No.: 09/994,696

Filing Date: November 28, 2001

Title: PLATELET COLLECTING APPARATUS

Group Art Unit: 3762

Examiner: LESLIE R. DEAK

Confirmation No.: 8470

AMENDMENT/REPLY TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Enclosed is a reply for the above-identified patent application.

- A Petition for Extension of Time is also enclosed.
- Terminal Disclaimer(s) and the \$55.00 (2814) \$110.00 (1814) fee per Disclaimer due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.20(d) are also enclosed.
- Also enclosed is/are _____

- Small entity status is hereby claimed.
- Applicant(s) requests continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and enclose the \$385.00 (2801) \$770.00 (1801) fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e).
- Applicant(s) requests that any previously unentered after final amendments not be entered. Continued examination is requested based on the enclosed documents identified above.
- Applicant(s) previously submitted _____

on _____, for which continued examination is requested.
- Applicant(s) requests suspension of action by the Office until at least _____, which does not exceed three months from the filing of this RCE, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c). The required fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) is enclosed.
- A Request for Entry and Consideration of Submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.129(a) (1809/2809) is also enclosed.

- No additional claim fee is required.
 An additional claim fee is required, and is calculated as shown below.

AMENDED CLAIMS					
	No. of Claims	Highest No. of Claims Previously Paid For	Extra Claims	Rate	Additional Fee
Total Claims	17	MINUS 20 =	0	x \$18.00 (1202) =	\$ 0.00
Independent Claims	2	MINUS 3 =	0	x \$86.00 (1201) =	\$ 0.00
If Amendment adds multiple dependent claims, add \$290.00 (1203)					
Total Claim Amendment Fee					
<input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Status claimed - subtract 50% of Total Claim Amendment Fee					
TOTAL ADDITIONAL CLAIM FEE DUE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					
\$ 0.00					

- A check in the amount of _____ is enclosed for the fee due.
 Charge _____ to Deposit Account No. 02-4800.
 Charge _____ to credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17, 1.20(d) and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(703) 836-6620

Date: Aug. 19, 2004

By Matthew Schneider
Matthew L. Schneider
Registration No. 32,814



Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 011350-289

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
Noboru Saito et al.) Group Art Unit: 3762
Application No.: 09/994,696) Examiner: LESLIE R DEAK
Filed: November 28, 2001) Confirmation No.: 8470
For: PLATELET COLLECTING)
APPARATUS)

DISCUSSION OF SUBSTANCE OF TELEPHONIC INTERVIEW

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Examiner Deak telephoned the undersigned on August 18, 2004 to discuss this application. The comments below discuss the substance of the telephonic interview.

Examiner Deak telephoned the undersigned to discuss minor wording changes to independent Claims 1 and 10 to place the application in allowable form. The changes discussed with Examiner Deak were as follows.

Claim 1, line 17: delete "endowed with a function of increasing" and insert therefor --programmed to increase--.

Claim 10, line 17: delete "endowed with" and insert therefor --programmed to--.

Claim 10, line 18: delete "a function of".

Claim 10, line 19: delete "increasing" and insert therefor --increase--.

Claim 10, line 23: delete "a function of increasing" and insert therefor
--increase--.

As discussed with Examiner Deak, the proposed changes noted above are not intended to narrow the claim scope, but rather were suggested solely to define in a more positive manner the previously claimed subject matter by noting that the claimed controller is programmed to carry out the recited subject matter.

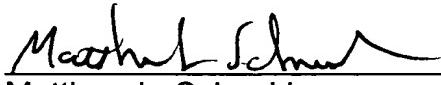
On August 19, 2004, the undersigned telephone Examiner Deak and approved the aforementioned changes to Claims 1 and 10, thus placing the application in allowable form.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that the undersigned be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: August 19, 2004

By: 
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Registration No. 32,814

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